

Remarks**Claim objections**

The examiner objected to claims 528 and 584 as failing to further limit claims from which they depend. Claims 528 and 584 have been canceled.

Claim Rejections**-Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112**

The examiner rejected claims 496, 532, 535, and 589 as indefinite because they depended on canceled claims. Claim 496 has been amended to depend from pending claim 481. Claims 532, 535, and 589 have been canceled.

The examiner rejected claims 329-358 as containing a limitation (that the fluid is non-aerated) which was not described in the specification as filed. Applicant submits that silence regarding aeration is sufficient to meet the limitation. Applicant submits that claim 358 did not include such a limitation. In any event, claim 329 has been amended to omit the limitation and claim 358 has been canceled.

-Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

The examiner rejected claims 329, 334, 335, 339, 341, 343, 346, 347, 349, 350, and 352-357 as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,977,030 to House. Claim 329 has been amended in a manner believed to overcome the rejection. The remaining claims depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 329.

-Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

The examiner rejected claims 440, 620, 622-628, 630-634, 641-642, 645-657, and 661-671 as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 5,977,030 to House. Claim 440 has been amended to

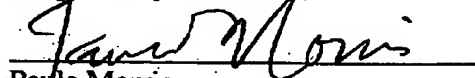
depend from amended claim 413, which is believed to be allowable. Claim 620 and 628 have been amended and are believed to be allowable. Claims 635-671 have been canceled.

The examiner also rejected a large number of claims as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,020,407 to Campbell in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,977,030 to House. The claim amendments/cancellations are believed to overcome these rejections.

The examiner rejected claims 523, 524, 526-539, 541-544, 546-549 as obvious over Brookey (2001/0027880). The claims have been canceled.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees in connection with this paper, or to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-0429 maintained by Baker Hughes Incorporated.

Respectfully submitted,



Paula Morris

Reg. No. 31,516

Paula D. Morris & Associates, P.C.

10260 Westheimer, Suite 360

Houston, Texas 77042

(713) 334-5151

(713) 334-5157

ATTORNEY FOR APPLICANTS